

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated August 4, 2008. In view of the foregoing amendments and following representations, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

By the above amendments, claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 9 are amended; and claims 2, 6 and 8 are cancelled. Thus, claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 9 are currently pending in the present application.

Next, the specification has been reviewed and a number of changes have been made to provide the preferred headings and to make minor clarifying changes. Also, the abstract has been amended to enclose the reference numerals in parentheses. Note that the changes to the abstract are submitted in the form of a substitute abstract. A marked-up copy of the abstract is attached and entitled "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Next, on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1, 5, 8 and 9 are objected to because of the language "its" and "can be". In response, the language considered unclear by the Examiner has been replaced in the amended claims. Thus, the objection is now clearly obviated.

Next, on pages 3-4 of the Office Action, claims 1, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shikama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,662,400). Also, on pages 5-6 of the Office Action, claims 2, 3 and 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Shikama reference. It is submitted that the present invention, as defined in the amended claims, now clearly distinguishes over the Shikama reference for the following reason.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 2. And thus, claim 1 requires, *inter alia*, a casing for housing the light source and the reflecting mirror which controls the angle of a flux of light emitted from the light source; and a path changing mirror

container set on a controlled light flux path side of the casing to house the path changing mirror, the path changing mirror container being attached to the casing in a manner that allows the path changing mirror container to rotate about a travel direction axis line of the controlled flux of light. Thus, the path changing mirror can emit a controlled flux of light in a desired direction about its axis line (see page 11, line 28 to page 12, line 19 of the specification).

In the explanation of the rejection of claim 2, the Examiner does not appear to address the limitation requiring that the path changing mirror container is rotatably attached to the casing so that it is rotatable about a travel direction axis line of the controlled flux of light. Thus, the path changing mirror itself can rotate about the travel direction axis line of the controlled flux of light.

Skikama discloses a lamp 120, reflecting mirror 130, and mirrors 11a-d and dichroic mirror 14R, which the Examiner explains correspond to the claimed light source, reflecting mirror and path changing mirror of the present invention, respectively. However, the Shikama reference does not disclose that a container or the mirrors 11a-d and dichroic mirror 14R are rotatable about the travel direction axis line of the controlled flux of light. Thus, each and every limitation of amended independent claim 1 is not disclosed or suggested in the Shikama reference.

Finally, claims 3, 4, 5, 7 and 9 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1, and are therefore allowable at least by virtue of their dependencies.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the present application is now clearly in condition for allowance. The Examiner therefore is requested to pass this case to issue.

In the event that the Examiner has any comments or suggestions of a nature necessary to place this case in condition for allowance, then the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney by telephone to promptly resolve any remaining matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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